

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A peel type blind rivet assembly comprising:

an elongate tubular body having a shank disposed about a shank axis and a preformed body head at a first end thereof and an expandable portion at the opposed end of the shank remote from the body head, said elongate tubular body defining a mandrel accepting bore having a constant inner diameter, said body defining a plurality of elongate through slots, which slots terminate remote from said first end and increase in circumferential width from an outer surface of the shank toward an inner surface of the tubular body; and

a mandrel having a stem extending through and co-axial with said tubular body, which mandrel further having a mandrel head having a maximum external diameter greater than the internal diameter of the body, said mandrel head having a shoulder portion defining a perpendicular bearing surface which is substantially perpendicular to the stem, said perpendicular bearing surface being in contact with the opposed end, said stem having a first cylindrical portion adjacent the head having a first generally constant diameter and a second cylindrical portion having a second constant diameter greater than the first constant diameter.

2. (Original) A blind rivet assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein said opposed end of said shank presents a flat surface, perpendicular to said shank axis.

3. (Previously Presented) A blind rivet assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least one of said plurality of slots increases in length in an axial direction as it extends from an outer surface to an inner surface of said body.

4. (Previously Presented) A blind rivet assembly as claimed in claim 3 wherein a pair of side walls which define said at least one slot are curved.

5. (Previously Presented) A blind rivet assembly as claimed in claim 1 comprising a plurality of slots which are equally spaced about the circumference of said tubular body so that the angular displacement between adjacent slots about the shank axis is constant.

6. (Previously Presented) A blind rivet assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein an inner end of at least one of said plurality of slots is axially inclined so that said at least one slot is longer adjacent an inner surface of said body than adjacent an outer surface of said body.

7. (Previously Presented) A blind rivet assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the wall thickness of said body is constant along its axial length.

8. (Original) A blind rivet assembly as claimed in claim 7 wherein the external diameter of said body is constant along its axial length.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) A blind rivet assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein said maximum diameter of said mandrel head is equal to the external diameter of said shank.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A peel type blind rivet assembly comprising:
an elongate tubular body having a shank disposed about a shank axis and a preformed body head at a first end thereof and an expandable portion at the opposed end of the shank remote from the head, said elongate tubular body defining an aperture having a constant internal diameter and an external surface having a constant outer diameter, said tubular body defining a plurality of elongate through slots which terminate remote from said first end and increase in circumferential width from an outer surface of the shank toward an inner surface of the tubular body; and

a mandrel having a stem extending through and co-axial with said tubular body, which mandrel further having a head defining a perpendicular shoulder between said mandrel stem and an outer surface of said mandrel head, said perpendicular shoulder defining a bearing surface which extends to said shank axis, the perpendicular shoulder bearing surface being in contact with the opposed end, said stem having a first cylindrical portion adjacent the mandrel head having a first generally constant diameter and a second cylindrical portion having a second constant diameter greater than the first constant diameter.

13. (Previously Presented) A blind rivet assembly as claimed in claim 12 wherein said opposed end of said shank presents a flat surface, perpendicular to said shank axis.

14. (Previously Presented) A blind rivet assembly as claimed in claim 12 wherein at least one of said plurality of slots increases in length in an axial direction as it extends from an outer surface to an inner surface of said body.

15. (Previously Presented) A blind rivet assembly as claimed in claim 14 wherein a pair of side walls which define said at least one slot are curved.

16. (Previously Presented) A blind rivet assembly as claimed in claim 15 comprising a plurality of slots which are equally spaced about the circumference of said tubular body so that the angular displacement between adjacent slots about the shank axis is constant.

17. (Previously Presented) A blind rivet assembly as claimed in claim 16 wherein an inner end of at least one of said plurality of slots is axially inclined so that said at least one slot is longer adjacent an inner surface of said body than adjacent an outer surface of said body.

18. (Previously Presented) A blind rivet assembly as claimed in claim 17 wherein the wall thickness of said body is constant along its axial length.

19. (Currently Amended) A peel type blind rivet assembly comprising:

an elongate tubular body having a shank disposed about a shank axis and a preformed head at a first end thereof and an expandable portion at the opposed end of the shank remote from the head, said elongate tubular body defining an aperture having a constant internal diameter and a external surface having a constant outer diameter, said tubular body defining a plurality of elongate through slots which terminate remote from said first end and increase in circumferential width from an outer surface of the shank toward an inner surface of the tubular body; and

a mandrel having a stem extending through and co-axial with said tubular body, which mandrel further having a mandrel head defining a shoulder between said mandrel stem and an outer surface of said mandrel head, said shoulder defining a perpendicular bearing surface which extends to said shank axis, the perpendicular bearing surface being in contact with the opposed end, the mandrel having a first portion disposed adjacent to the shoulder, said first portion defining a cylindrical surface having a generally constant diameter.

20. (Previously Presented) A blind rivet assembly as claimed in claim 19 wherein said mandrel defines a break neck portion defining three angled surfaces.